

United States Government

Department of Energy

memorandum

Albuquerque Operations Office

137

DATE:
REPLY TO
ATTN OF:
SUBJECT:

January 3, 1994

NESD

Nuclear Explosive Safety Study Report

TO: RADM Charles J. Beers, Jr., USN, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Military Application,
DP-20, HQ

This memorandum is for Defense Programs' approval and signature for the attached safety study report.

I have reviewed the safety study report, "Nuclear Explosive Safety Study of B53 Mechanical Disassembly Operations at the USDOE Pantex Plant."

I concur that the studied operations are not a threat to nuclear explosive safety and meet the Nuclear Explosive Safety Standards a., b., c., and e. and other nuclear explosive safety criteria of DOE Order 5610.11; except that portion which has not been implemented, as specified in Appendix A; and of AL Supplemental Directive 5610.11. The recommendations in this study should be approved and implemented. Nuclear Explosive Safety Standard d. is evaluated by the Department of Energy (DOE) Albuquerque Operations Office, Security and Nuclear Safeguards Division's security surveys and DOE Headquarters' inspections and evaluations of Pantex Plant security operations. These surveys and inspection and evaluations verify that there are positive measures to ensure adequate security of nuclear explosives pursuant to the DOE safeguards and security requirements. Accordingly, I consider that Standard d. is met for the Pantex Plant.

I recommend approval of the attached safety study report.

Bruce G. Twining
Manager

Attachment (SRD)

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D. Non-DOE Components

There are no non-DOE components included in the B53-1 bomb.

E. Telemetry Considerations

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F. Mitigation of Unauthorized Acts

Recommendations for two-person coverage and the rationale for the coverage will be presented at the study.

G. Other Hazards

The characteristics of the explosive and pyrotechnic devices used in the B53-1 are given in SAND90-1605, which is available at the Pantex facility. For reference, the explosive content and firing characteristics of these components are summarized in Table 1. All of these devices should be considered electrostatic discharge sensitive.

Brief descriptions of the explosive and pyrotechnic devices are given below:

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